

Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 Transit Security Grant Program (TSGP) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What is the purpose of the FY 2009 TSGP?

The TSGP is designed to create a sustainable, risk-based effort to protect critical surface transportation infrastructure and the traveling public from acts of terrorism, major disasters and other emergencies.

2. How much funding is available under the FY 2009 TSGP?

The total amount of funds distributed under the FY 2009 TSGP will be \$348.6 million.

3. Who is eligible to apply for FY 2009 TSGP funds?

Agencies eligible for the FY 2008 TSGP were identified using comprehensive, empirically grounded risk analysis modeling. An applicant's tier determination is established by a risk analysis that compares and ranks clusters of transit agencies. Each cluster comprises all eligible transit agencies in a given metropolitan area.

Tables 3 in the FY 2009 TSGP Guidance and Application Kit lists, by tier, the specific rail and intracity bus transit systems that are eligible for funding. Tier I regions are eligible to apply for the identified risk-based funding allocation for rail, ferry and intracity bus. Tier II agencies may compete for \$37.3 million of available rail and intracity bus funding.

Certain ferry systems are eligible to participate in the FY 2009 TSGP, and receive funds under the Tier I cooperative agreement process. However, any ferry system electing to participate and receive funds under the FY 2009 TSGP cannot participate in the FY 2009 Port Security Grant Program (PSGP), and will not be considered for funding under the FY 2009 PSGP. Likewise, any ferry system that participates in PSGP cannot be considered for funding under TSGP.

4. What are the key milestones associated with the FY 2009 TSGP?

The key milestones associated with TSGP are:

- Nov. 5, 2008: TSGP Grant Guidance and Application Kit released
- Jan. 13, 2009: Applications due directly to USDHS-FEMA by the grantees

5. How will the FY 2009 TSGP funds be allocated?

Based upon ongoing intelligence analysis, extensive security reviews, consultations with the transit industry and Congressional direction, DHS once again intends to focus the bulk of its available transit grant dollars on the highest-risk systems in our country's largest metropolitan areas. Eligible agencies were identified using a comprehensive, empirically-grounded risk analysis model that was also used in FY 2008.

DHS has also identified priority project types and placed them into groups based on their effectiveness to reduce risk. Certain types of projects that are effective at addressing risk will be given priority consideration for funding. These groups have been prioritized based upon departmental priorities and their ability to elevate security on a system-wide level, to elevate security to critical infrastructure assets, and to reduce the risk of catastrophic events and consequences.

6. How will the FY 2009 TSGP applications be submitted?

Completed applications must be submitted electronically through <u>www.grants.gov</u> no later than 11:59 p.m. EST, Jan. 13, 2009.